Executive Proclamation
State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, Food insecurity and hunger are a fact of life for thousands of low-income citizens of South Dakota and can produce physical, mental and social impairments; and,

Whereas, Recent data published by the Department of Agriculture shows that 9.2 percent or over 30,000 households in South Dakota experience hunger or food insecurity; and,

Whereas, South Dakota has over 97,000 individuals living below the national poverty level with over 33,000 of those being children under the age of 18; and,

Whereas, Progress has been made in reducing the incidence of hunger and food insecurity in South Dakota – still certain populations that remain vulnerable to hunger and its negative effects include the working poor, the elderly, children, homeless individuals and Native Americans; and,

Whereas, The people of South Dakota have a long tradition of providing food assistance to hungry people through acts of generosity by private, state and federal support programs; and,

Whereas, In 2006, the Community Food Banks of South Dakota distributed over 9.2 million pounds of food and grocery products to over 500 charitable organizations that provided food assistance to the hungry; and,

Whereas, All citizens of South Dakota can help participate in hunger relief efforts in their communities by donating food and money, volunteering time and supporting public policies aimed at reducing hunger:

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim June 5, 2007, as

HUNGER AWARENESS DAY

in South Dakota.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Seventeenth Day of May in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Seven.

M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

Chris Nelson, Secretary of State